

# **PATRIARCHAL DIVINE LITURGY IN YAOUNDE**

In the presence of His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, ministers of the Government of the Cameroon as well as many Ambassadors, among whom were the Ambassadors of Greece, U.S.A., Russia, Japan, Spain and the Vatican, as well as all of the immigrant Greeks, the functions of the fiftieth anniversary of the Holy Metropolis of the Cameroon were celebrated.

During the Patriarchal Divine Liturgy at the Holy Cathedral of the Annunciation of the Theotokos, on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2009, His Beatitude gave honour to all those who had served the local Church, and expressed his deep gratitude to His Excellency the President of the Cameroon, Dr Paul Biya, for his recent decision to officially recognize Orthodoxy, by Presidential Decree, and by extension the Holy Metropolis of the country.

On his behalf, the Metropolitan of the Cameroon , His Eminence Gregory, spoke of the work of the Metropolis and the enormous contribution made by the Greeks in ecclesiastical service, in honour of whom a commemorative plaque was unveiled at the entrance to the church, during the singing of the national anthems of Greece and the Cameroon .

Following the Divine Liturgy a celebratory reception was held, during which His Beatitude had a chance to converse with the dignitaries and the faithful Christians who had filled the areas around the church.